

California Department of Food & Agriculture

Minutes of the Joint Conference Call

Meeting of the Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board
and Pierce's Disease Advisory Task Force

Held on Friday, March 7, 2008

1220 N Street, Room 333, Sacramento, CA 95814

PD/GWSS BOARD

Members Present

Kevin Andrew
Dennis Atkinson
Greg Coleman
Ben Drake
Drew Johnson

Brad Lange
Frank Leeds
Steve McIntyre
Dana Merrill
Al Rossini

Steve Schafer
Herb Schmidt
Jim Unti

Members Absent

Edgar "Pete" Downs

Hugh (Wally) Ewart

PD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Members Present

Kevin Andrew
Larry Bezark
George Bruening
Nat DiBuduo
Ben Drake

David House
Scott Hudson
Drew Johnson
Corky Roche
John Snyder

Judy Stewart-Leslie
Beth Stone-Smith
David Whitmer
David Wineman

Members Absent

Ted Batkin
Nancy Irelan

Joe MacIlvaine
Richard Mounts
Steve Nation

Robert Wample
Craig Weaver

OTHER ATTENDEES

Robert Crudup
Michelle Dennis
Tom Esser
Kurt Floren
Ken Freeze
Craig Hanes

John Kabashima
Alan Laird
Eric Lauritzen
Janet LeMasters
Greg Morris
Kari Morrow

Stacie Oswalt
Rick Redak
Roger Spencer
Bob Wynn

CALL TO ORDER

PD/GWSS Board Chairperson Herb Schmidt and PD Advisory Task Force Chairperson Kevin Andrew called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Wynn conducted the roll call for the PD/GWSS Board and the PD Advisory Task Force.

Quorums were present for both groups. Other attendees on the conference call introduced themselves.

OPENING REMARKS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NURSERY APPROVED TREATMENT PROGRAM

Bob Wynn opened the discussion. Roger Spencer then introduced two invited guests: Dr. Rick Redak with UC Riverside and Dr. John Kabashima with UC Cooperative Extension. These research scientists were available to answer questions about GWSS egg masses, pesticides, irrigation, lab and field trials, and other related studies. Roger summarized discussions held regarding the impact of overhead irrigation on the efficacy of Carbaryl and Tame, and treatment coverage of groundcover plants. Other issues and topics such as quality control, random checks, best management practices, residue testing, sustainability, and cost savings were also brought up and discussed.

There are pros and cons regarding the approved treatment program as noted below.

Pros:

- Offers added protection to grape industry by using approved chemicals, which have been shown to provide near 100% mortality;
- A chemical based program is scientifically proven to be more efficacious than visual inspection;
- Cost savings – will save the nursery industry money by eliminating the long-term the need for origin inspection and by allowing plants with egg masses to stay at destination (eliminating destruction and return of product); and
- Cost savings – will save the PDCP money by not having to pay for origin (and destination) inspections.

Cons:

- Initially not a significant cost savings at destination since counties will still be allowed to conduct inspections covered by their existing budget; and
- Initially not a significant cost savings at destination since origin counties will dedicate a lot of resources to the training and oversight for the program's implementation.

Frank Leeds expressed his concerns regarding the ATP program during the meeting -- the possibility of insufficient coverage--not a full 100% coverage on all plants; this is a long-term solution and the efficacy of the program is questionable; doubts that it is environmentally sound; nurseries continue to spray with Carbaryl and other chemicals; the public is not comfortable with shipments of egg masses even if the plants are being sprayed; and Napa will continue to hold up shipments until they are checked out. Frank stated that he would continue to keep protesting against the use of chemicals, etc. and did thank members for listening to his issues. His job is to keep GWSS out of the county and protect the environment.

After much discussion, the following motion was made, voted upon, and passed by the Board and Task Force:

- ❖ It was M/S/P by the PD/GWSS Board and the PD Advisory Task Force to recommend to the Secretary that the Nursery Stock Approved Treatment Program using the approved treatment protocols be implemented.

Details of Board Vote

Motion: Leeds; Second: Drake

In Favor: Andrew, Atkinson, Coleman, Drake, Johnson, Lange, McIntyre, Merrill, Rossini,
Schmidt, Unti

Against: Leeds

Abstain: none

Absent: Downs, Ewart, Schafer

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: House; Second: Snyder

In Favor: Andrew, Bezark, Bruening, Drake, House, Hudson, Johnson, Roche, Snyder,
Stewart-Leslie, Stone-Smith, Whitmer, Wineman

Against: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Batkin, DiBuduo, Irelan, MacIlvaine, Mounts, Nation, Wample, Weaver

After the vote there was a discussion on whether or not a program of random sampling and inspections should be conducted. It was suggested to form a subcommittee to monitor the program. The following motion was made, voted upon, and not passed by the Task Force:

- ❖ It was M/S/NP by the PD Advisory Task Force to recommend to the Secretary the formation of a subcommittee to monitor quality control and gather further research data on the project.

Details of Task Force Vote

Motion: Roche; Second: Hudson

In Favor: Bezark, Roche, Wineman

Against: Andrew, Bruening, Dibuduo, Drake, House, Hudson, Johnson, Snyder, Stewart-Leslie, Stone-Smith, Whitmer

Abstain: none

Absent: Batkin, Irelan, MacIlvaine, Mounts, Nation, Wample, Weaver

OTHER ITEMS

Janet LeMasters updated the members on the April 22-23, 2008, joint meeting of the PD/GWSS Board and PD Advisory Task Force to be held in Ventura at the Marriott Ventura Beach Hotel. David House reported that tours for the members were being arranged at nurseries in the Ventura area.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Chairpersons Herb Schmidt and Kevin Andrew adjourned the joint conference call meeting at 2:30 pm.